

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed H.R. 1388, Generations Invigorating Volunteerism and Education Act (The Edward M. Kennedy Service Act).

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S3817–S3940

Measures Introduced: Twenty-two bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 712–733, and S. Res. 86–88. **Pages S3897–98**

Measures Passed:

Generations Invigorating Volunteerism And Education Act: By 79 yeas to 19 nays (Vote No. 115), Senate passed H.R. 1388, to reauthorize and reform the national service laws, as amended, after taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S3822–85**

Adopted:

Mikulski (for Ensign) Modified Amendment No. 690 (to Amendment No. 687), to improve the provisions relating to erroneous or incorrect certifications. **Page S3833**

By 56 yeas to 41 nays (Vote No. 112), Baucus Amendment No. 721 (to Amendment No. 687), to express the sense of the Senate regarding the Federal income tax deduction for charitable giving. **Pages S3828–30, S3833–34**

Burr/Mikulski Amendment No. 727 (to Amendment No. 687), to strengthen criminal history checks for individuals working with vulnerable populations and for other purposes. **Pages S3835–36**

Mikulski (for Warner) Amendment No. 714 (to Amendment No. 687), to conduct a study regarding the establishment of a Volunteer Management Corps program. **Page S3836**

Mikulski/Enzi Amendment No. 728 (to Amendment No. 687), of a perfecting nature. **Page S3837**

Mikulski Amendment No. 687, in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S3823, S3848**

Hatch Amendment No. 729, to amend the title. **Pages S3884–85**

Rejected:

By 48 yeas to 49 nays (Vote No. 113), Thune Amendment No. 716 (to Amendment No. 687), to

express the sense of the Senate regarding the Federal income tax deduction for charitable giving. **Pages S3823, S3828, S3834**

Vitter Amendment No. 705 (to Amendment No. 687), to prohibit ACORN, or organizations affiliated or co-located with ACORN, from receiving assistance under this Act. (By 53 yeas to 43 nays (Vote No. 114), Senate tabled the amendment.) **Pages S3830–33, S3834–35**

Withdrawn:

Burr Amendment No. 722 (to Amendment No. 687), to strengthen criminal history checks for participants in national service programs working with vulnerable populations. **Pages S3826–28, S3835**

Cloture Motions—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the cloture motions relative to Mikulski Amendment No. 687, and the bill, be withdrawn. **Page S3844**

Congratulating Rocky Mountain College Battlin' Bears Basketball Team: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 85, congratulating the Rocky Mountain College Battlin' Bears for winning the 2009 National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Men's Basketball National Championship, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Pages S3938–39**

Honoring the Life of Dr. John Hope Franklin: Senate agreed to S. Res. 88, honoring the life of Dr. John Hope Franklin. **Page S3939**

Filing of Budget Resolution—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that on Friday, March 27, 2009, the Committee on the Budget be permitted to file the committee-reported concurrent resolution on the budget between the hours of 11 a.m., to 1 p.m. **Page S3939**

Budget Resolution—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at 11 a.m., on Monday, March 30, 2009, Senate begin

consideration of the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for fiscal year 2010. **Page S3939**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Steven Elliot Koonin, of California, to be Under Secretary for Science, Department of Energy.

Yvette Roubideaux, of Arizona, to be Director of the Indian Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services, for the term of four years.

Joseph C. Szabo, of Illinois, to be Administrator of the Federal Railroad Administration.

Luis C. de Baca, of Virginia, to be Director of the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking, with rank of Ambassador at Large.

T. Michael Kerr, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Labor.

Linda A. Puchala, of Maryland, to be a Member of the National Mediation Board for a term expiring July 1, 2009.

Linda A. Puchala, of Maryland, to be a Member of the National Mediation Board for a term expiring July 1, 2012. **Page S3940**

Messages from the House: **Pages S3895–96**

Measures Referred: **Page S3896**

Executive Communications: **Page S3896**

Petitions and Memorials: **Pages S3896–97**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S3897**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S3898–99**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:
Pages S3899–S3934

Additional Statements: **Pages S3894–95**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S3934–37**

Notices of Hearings/Meetings: **Page S3937**

Authorities for Committees to Meet:
Pages S3937–38

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S3938**

Text of S. Res. 37, as Previously Agreed to:
Page S3938

Record Votes: Four record votes were taken today. (Total—115) **Pages S3834–35, S3848**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 7:09 p.m., until 11 a.m. on Monday, March 30, 2009. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on pages S3939–40.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Ashton B. Carter, of Massachusetts, to be Under Secretary for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics, who was introduced by Senator Lieberman, James N. Miller, Jr., of Virginia, to be Deputy Under Secretary for Policy, who was introduced by Senator Reed, and Alexander Vershbow, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary for International Security Affairs, all of the Department of Defense, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

U.S. MILITARY LAND POWER

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Airland concluded a hearing to examine current and future roles, missions, and capabilities of United States military land power, after receiving testimony from Andrew F. Krepinevich, Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments, and Thomas Donnelly, American Enterprise Institute, both of Washington, D.C.; and Peter R. Mansoor, Ohio State University, Columbus.

INVESTOR PROTECTION AND SECURITIES MARKETS

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine enhancing investor protection and the regulation of securities markets, after receiving testimony from Mary L. Schapiro, Chairman, Richard C. Breeden, and Arthur Levitt, both a former Chairman, and Paul S. Atkins, former Commissioner, all of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission; Fred J. Joseph, Colorado Securities Commissioner, Denver, on behalf of the North American Securities Administrators Association, Inc.; Richard G. Ketchum, Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Richard H. Baker, Managed Funds Association, Barbara Roper, Consumer Federation of America, and David G. Tittsworth, Investment Adviser Association, all of Washington, D.C.; Ronald A. Stack, Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board, Alexandria, Virginia; and James Chanos, Coalition of Private Investment Companies, Rita M. Bolger, Standard and Poor's, and Daniel Curry, DBRS Inc., all of New York, New York.

2010: BUDGET

Committee on the Budget: Committee ordered favorably reported a concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2010, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2009, and setting

forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2011 through 2014.

HEALTH INSURANCE INDUSTRY PRACTICES

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine health insurance industry practices, after receiving testimony from Linda A. Lacewell, State of New York Office of the Attorney General Healthcare Industry Taskforce, Albany; Nancy H. Nielsen, American Medical Association, Washington, D.C.; and Charles Bell, Consumers Union, Yonkers, New York.

STRENGTHENING AMERICAN MANUFACTURING

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine S. 661, to strengthen American manufacturing through improved industrial energy efficiency, after receiving testimony from David Rodgers, Director for Strategic Planning and Analysis, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy; R. Neal Elliott, American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy, and Stephen Harper, Intel Corporation, both of Washington, D.C.; David Zepponi, Northwest Food Processors Association, Portland, Oregon; Jeff Metts, Dowding Industries, Inc., Eaton Rapids, Michigan; and Maxine Savitz, Los Angeles, California.

NOMINATION

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Thomas L. Strickland, of Colorado, to be Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, Department of the Interior, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senators Udall (CO) and Bennet, testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

MIDDLE INCOME TAX RELIEF

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine middle income tax relief, after receiving testimony from Paul Taylor, Pew Research Center, Robert Greenstein, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, and Alan D. Viard, American Enterprise Institute, all of Washington, D.C.; and George K. Yin, University of Virginia School of Law, Charlottesville.

NOMINATION

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Karl

Winfried Eikenberry, of Florida, to be Ambassador of the United States of America to the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, Department of State, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senator Inouye and former Senator Warner, testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Rose Eilene Gottemoeller, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary for Verification and Compliance, who was introduced by Senator Lugar, and Philip H. Gordon, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary for European and Eurasian Affairs, both of the Department of State, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

NOMINATION

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Jane Holl Lute, of New York, to be Deputy Secretary of Homeland Security, after the nominee, who was introduced by New York City Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg, testified and answered questions in her own behalf.

NOMINATION

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of John Berry, of the District of Columbia, to be Director of the Office of Personnel Management, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senator Cardin and Representative Hoyer, testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Tony West, of California, Lanny A. Breuer, of the District of Columbia, and Christine Anne Varney, of the District of Columbia, each to be an Assistant Attorney General, all of the Department of Justice.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing on certain intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 47 public bills, H.R. 1726–1772; 1 private bill, H.R. 1773; and 7 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 83–84; and H. Res. 288, 290–293 were introduced.

Pages H4061–63

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H4063–64

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 1171, to amend title 38, United States Code, to reauthorize the Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program for fiscal years 2010 through 2014, with amendments (H. Rept. 111–54);

H.R. 1377, to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand veteran eligibility for reimbursement by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for emergency treatment furnished in a non-Department facility, with an amendment (H. Rept. 111–55);

H.R. 1513, to increase, effective as of December 1, 2009, the rates of disability compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for survivors of certain service-connected disabled veterans (H. Rept. 111–56); and

H. Res. 289, waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules (H. Rept. 111–57).

Pages H4060–61

Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Reverend Gary Shaw, Central Christian Center, Joplin, Missouri.

Page H4029

Federal Land Assistance, Management and Enhancement Act: The House passed H.R. 1404, to authorize a supplemental funding source for catastrophic emergency wildland fire suppression activities on Department of the Interior and National Forest System lands and to require the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to develop a cohesive wildland fire management strategy, by a recorded vote of 412 ayes to 3 noes, Roll No. 162.

Pages H4031–44

Accepted:

Rahall amendment (No. 1 printed in H. Rept. 111–52) that strikes from the bill the Sense of Congress language on the designation of Flame Fund appropriations as emergency spending; **Pages H4032–33**

Polis amendment (No. 3 printed in H. Rept. 111–52) that requires revisions of the cohesive wildland fire management strategy at least once every five years; **Pages H4033–34**

Hastings (WA) amendment (No. 5 printed in H. Rept. 111–52) that requires the review of certain

wildfires specified in the bill to include an assessment of what actions, if any, could have been taken in advance of the fire that may have prevented the fire or at least reduced the severity of the fire;

Pages H4034–35

Hastings (WA) amendment (No. 6 printed in H. Rept. 111–52) that requires the review of certain wildfires specified in the bill to include an assessment of the quantity of greenhouse gases produced as a result of the fire;

Page H4035

Heinrich amendment (No. 7 printed in H. Rept. 111–52) that requires the cohesive wildland fire management strategy required in the bill to include among its elements a system to assess the impacts of climate change on the frequency and severity of wildland fire;

Pages H4035–36

Lujan amendment (No. 9 printed in H. Rept. 111–52) that requires the cohesive wildland fire management strategy required in the bill to include among its elements a system to study the effects of invasive species on wildland fire risk. Adds to the list of eligible uses for cost-share grants provided for in the bill implementation of fire-safety programs focused on the eradication or control of invasive species;

Pages H4036–37

Rahall amendment (No. 10 printed in H. Rept. 111–52) that requires the cohesive wildland fire management strategy required in the bill to include among its elements a plan, developed in coordination with the National Guard Bureau, to maximize the use of National Guard resources to fight wildfires;

Pages H4037–38

Perlmutter amendment (No. 2 printed in H. Rept. 111–52) that clarifies that authorized suppression activities for the Flame Fund include containment activities in response to crisis insect infestations to reduce the likelihood of wildfires (by a recorded vote of 420 ayes with none voting “no”, Roll No. 157);

Pages H4033, H4040–41

Hastings (WA) amendment (No. 4 printed in H. Rept. 111–52) that requires advance notice, in writing, to adjacent landowners whenever the Department of Agriculture sets a prescribed fire on National Forest System land (by a recorded vote of 420 ayes with none voting “no”, Roll No. 158);

Pages H4034, H4041

Minnick amendment (No. 8 printed in H. Rept. 111–52) that requires that the Secretaries, in considering severity of and threat posed by a fire for the purposes of determining whether to declare that a wildland fire suppression activity is eligible for funding from the Flame Fund, take into account areas where insect infestation has created an extreme risk

for wildfire (by a recorded vote of 422 ayes with none voting “no”, Roll No. 159); and

Pages H4036, H4041–42

Kirkpatrick (AZ) amendment (No. 12 printed in H. Rept. 111–52) that amends the definition of “fire-ready community” in the bill to provide that a community satisfies the definition if it is located within a priority area identified by the fire risk maps required by the bill, and meets two of the other four criteria listed in the bill for “fire-ready communities” (by a recorded vote of 418 ayes to 2 noes, Roll No. 160).

Pages H4038, H4042–43

Rejected:

Goodlatte amendment (No. 13 printed in H. Rept. 111–52) that sought to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into contracts or cooperative agreements with a State Forester to prepare and implement “good neighbor” projects on National Forest System land to complement any similar project being performed on bordering or adjacent non-Federal land. Would have provided that the decision to proceed with a good neighbor project is in the Secretary’s sole discretion. Defined good neighbor projects to include certain fuels reduction projects (by a recorded vote of 148 ayes to 272 noes, Roll No. 161).

Pages H4038–40, H4043

Agreed that the Clerk be authorized to make technical and conforming changes to reflect the actions of the House.

Page H4045

H. Res. 281, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to on Wednesday, March 25th.

Meeting Hour: Agreed that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Monday, March 30th for morning hour debate.

Page H4046

Quorum Calls—Votes: Six recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H4040–41, H4041, H4042, H4042–43, H4043 and H4044. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 3:01 p.m.

Committee Meetings

STATE OF OBESITY IN THE U.S.

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on Department Operations, Oversight, Nutrition and Forestry held a hearing on the state of obesity in the United States. Testimony was heard from William Dietz, M.D., Director, Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity Prevention, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Health and Human Services; and public witnesses.

TOBACCO PRODUCTION IN THE U.S.

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on Rural Development, Biotechnology, Specialty Crops, and Foreign Agriculture held a hearing to review tobacco production in the United States. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FDA, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Inspector General. Testimony was heard from Daniel R. Levinson, Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services; and public witnesses.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies held a hearing on DEA. Testimony was heard from Michelle M. Leonhart, Acting Administrator, DEA, Department of Justice.

HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Homeland Security held a hearing on S&T Research and Transitioning Products Into Use. Testimony was heard from Bradley Buswell, Acting Under Secretary, Science and Technology, Department of Homeland Security.

INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCY APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior, Environment and Related Agencies continued hearings on Native-American and Alaska Natives Issues. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

LABOR, HHS, EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies held a hearing on NIH: Budget Overview, Implementation of ARRA and Status of the National Children’s Study. Testimony was heard from Raynard Kington, M.D., Acting Director, NIH, Department of Health and Human Services.

STATE, AND FOREIGN OPERATIONS APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on State, and Foreign Operations, and Related Programs continue appropriations hearings. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

STATUS OF THE FUTURE COMBAT SYSTEMS PROGRAM

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Air and Land Forces held a hearing on status of the future combat systems program. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the GAO: Paul L. Francis, Director, Acquisition and Sourcing Management; William R. Graveline, Assistant Director, Acquisition and Sourcing Management; Marcus Ferguson, Senior Analyst.

FUTURE CAPABILITIES OF U.S. MARITIME FORCES

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Seapower and Expeditionary Forces held a hearing on requirements for the future capabilities of the United States maritime forces. Testimony was heard from Ron O'Rourke, Senior Naval Analyst, CRS, Library of Congress; RADM. William Houley, USN (Ret.); and a public witness.

FUTURE ROLES AND MISSIONS OF THE MISSILE DEFENSE AGENCY

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Strategic Forces held a hearing on future roles and missions of the Missile Defense Agency. Testimony was heard from David G. Ahern, Director, Portfolio Systems Acquisition, Office of the Under Secretary, Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics, Department of Defense; John Pendleton, Director, Defense Capabilities and Management Team, GAO; and a public witness.

ECONOMIC AND EMPLOYMENT IMPACT ON THE ARTS AND MUSIC INDUSTRY

Committee on Education and Labor: Held a hearing on the economic and employment impact of the Arts and music industry. Testimony was heard from Representatives Slaughter and Bishop of Utah; and public witnesses.

DIGITAL TELEVISION TRANSITION

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Communications, Technology and the Internet held a hearing on Oversight of the Digital Television Transition. Testimony was heard from Michael J. Copps, Acting Chairman, FCC; Anna Gomez, Acting Assistant Secretary, Communications and Information, Department of Commerce; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—EXPERIMENTAL HUMAN TESTING FOR PROFIT

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing on Institutional Review Boards that Oversee Experimental Human Testing for Profit. Testimony was heard

from Gregory Kutz, Managing Director, Forensic Audits and Special Investigations, GAO; the following officials of the Department of Health and Human Services: Jerry Menikoff, Director, Office for Human Research Protections; and Joanne Less, Director, Good Clinical Practice Programs, FDA; and a public witness.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES; COMPREHENSIVE REGULATORY REFORM

Committee on Financial Services: Ordered reported the following measures: H.R. 1664, as amended, To amend the executive compensation provisions of the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 to prohibit unreasonable and excessive compensation and compensation not based on performance standards; and H. Res. 251. Directing the Secretary of the Treasury to transmit to the House of Representatives all information his possession relating to specific communications with American International Group, Inc. (AIG).

The Committee also held a hearing entitled "Addressing the Need for Comprehensive Regulatory Reform." Testimony was heard from Timothy F. Geithner, Secretary of the Treasury.

CONSOLIDATING DHS

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Management, Investigations, and Oversight held a hearing entitled "Consolidating DHS: An Update on the St. Elizabeth Project." Testimony was heard from Donald Bathurst, Chief Administrative Officer, Department of Homeland Security; and William Guerin, Assistant Commissioner for Construction Programs, Public Buildings Service, GSA.

2008 ELECTION

Committee on House Administration: Subcommittee on Elections held a hearing on the 2008 Election: A look back on what went right and wrong. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the U.S. Election Assistance Commission: Gineen Beach, Chairwoman; and Gracia Hillman, Vice-Chairwoman; Eric Eversole, former Attorney, Civil Rights Division, Department of Justice; and public witnesses.

REPRESENTATION OF INDIGENT DEFENDANTS IN CRIMINAL CASES

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism and Homeland Security held a hearing on the Representation of Indigent Defendants in Criminal Cases: A Constitutional Crisis in Michigan and Other States? Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

ASSESSING STRATEGIC RESOURCES IN AFGHANISTAN

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on National Security and Foreign Affairs held a hearing on Troops, Diplomats, and Aid: Assessing Strategic Resources for Afghanistan. Testimony was heard from LTG. David W. Barno, USA (Ret.) former Commander, Combined Forces Command-Afghanistan; Ambassador James Dobbins, former Special Envoy for Afghanistan; David Kilcullen, former Special Advisor for Counterinsurgency to Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice; and a public witness.

SAME DAY CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN RESOLUTIONS REPORTED BY THE RULES COMMITTEE

Committee on Rules: The Committee granted, by a non-record vote, a rule waiving clause 6(a) of rule XIII (requiring a two-thirds vote to consider a rule on the same day it is reported from the Rules Committee) against certain resolutions reported from the Rules Committee. The rule applies the waiver to any resolution reported through the legislative day of March 30, 2009, providing for consideration or disposition of the bill (H.R. 1388) to reauthorize and reform the national service laws, an amendment thereto, or a conference report thereon.

AVIATION AND THE EMERGING USE OF BIOFUELS

Committee on Science and Technology: Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics, hearing on Aviation and the Emerging Use of Biofuels. Testimony was heard from Jaiwon Shin, Associate Administrator, Aeronautics Research Mission Directorate, NASA; and public witnesses.

EXPANDING EQUITY INVESTMENT IN SMALL BUSINESS

Committee on Small Business: Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight held a hearing entitled "Expanding Equity Investment in Small Business." Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

DOT'S DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE PROGRAMS

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Held a hearing on the Department of Transportation's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Programs. Testimony was heard from Representative Clyburn; and the following officials of the Department of Transportation: Joel Szabat, Acting Assistant Secretary, Transportation Policy; and Robert C. Ashby, Deputy Assistant General Counsel, Regulation and Enforcement; and public witnesses.

CLIMATE CHANGE LEGISLATION

Committee on Ways and Means: Continued hearings on Climate Change Legislation. Legislative. Testimony was heard from Douglas Elmendorf, Director, CBO; and public witnesses.

USDI UPDATE BRIEFING; AFGHANISTAN ROLL BRIEFING

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Met in executive session to receive a briefing on USDI Update. The Committee was briefed by James Clapper, Under Secretary, Intelligence, Department of Defense.

The Committee also met in executive session to receive a briefing on Afghanistan Roll-Out. The Committee was briefed by Dennis Blair, Director of National Intelligence.

Joint Meetings

HUMAN RIGHTS IN AFGHANISTAN

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: Commission concluded a hearing to examine human rights in Afghanistan, after receiving testimony from Sima Samar, Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission, Kabul, Afghanistan; and Scott Worden, United States Institute of Peace, Washington, D.C.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 2009

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings are scheduled.

House

No committee meetings are scheduled.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD Week of March 30 through April 4, 2009

Senate Chamber

On *Monday*, at 11 a.m., Senate will begin consideration of the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for fiscal year 2010.

During the balance of the week, Senate may consider any cleared legislative and executive business.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: March 31, to hold hearings to examine Federal school meal programs, focusing on nutrition for kids in schools, 9:30 a.m., SR-328A.

April 1, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine pending nominations, 2 p.m., SR-328A.

Committee on Appropriations: April 1, Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs, to hold hearings to examine assistance for civilian casualties of war, 10 a.m., SD-138.

Committee on Armed Services: April 1, to hold hearings to examine United States policy toward Afghanistan and Pakistan, 9:30 a.m., SD-106.

April 1, Subcommittee on Personnel, to hold hearings to examine the implementation of Wounded Warrior policies and programs, 2:30 p.m., SD-106.

April 1, Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, with the Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities, to receive a joint closed briefing to examine nuclear terrorism, 3:30 p.m., SVC-217.

April 2, Full Committee, business meeting to mark up S. 454, to improve the organization and procedures of the Department of Defense for the acquisition of major weapon systems, 9 a.m., SD-106.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: March 31, business meeting to consider S. 414, to amend the Consumer Credit Protection Act, to ban abusive credit practices, enhance consumer disclosures, protect underage consumers, 10 a.m., SD-538.

March 31, Subcommittee on Economic Policy, to hold hearings to examine lessons from the New Deal, 2:30 p.m., SD-538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: March 31, to continue hearings to examine health insurance industry practices, 10 a.m., SR-253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: March 31, business meeting to consider S. 531, to provide for the conduct of an in-depth analysis of the impact of energy development and production on the water resources of the United States, S. 598, to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to improve appliance standards, S. 661, to strengthen American manufacturing through improved industrial energy efficiency, Energy Innovation and Workforce Development Title, and the nomination of Thomas L. Strickland, of Colorado, to be Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, Department of the Interior, 10 a.m., SD-366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: March 31, Subcommittee on Water and Wildlife, to hold hearings to examine Environmental Protection Agency's role in promoting water use efficiency, 10 a.m., SD-406.

April 1, Subcommittee on Clean Air and Nuclear Safety, to hold an oversight hearing to examine the Environmental Protection Agency's renewable fuel standard, 10 a.m., SD-406.

April 2, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Regina McCarthy, of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, 9:15 a.m., SD-406.

Committee on Finance: March 31, to hold an oversight hearing to examine a six-month update on the Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP), 10 a.m., SD-215.

April 2, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Kathleen Sebelius, of Kansas, to be

Secretary of Health and Human Services, 10 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: March 31, business meeting to consider S. 384, to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2010 through 2014 to provide assistance to foreign countries to promote food security, to stimulate rural economies, and to improve emergency response to food crises, to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, S. 705, to reauthorize the programs of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation, proposed legislation expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the Fifth Summit of the Americas in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, from April 17-19, 2009, S. Con. Res. 11, condemning all forms of anti-Semitism and reaffirming the support of Congress for the mandate of the Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism, S. Res. 9, commemorating 90 years of U.S.-Polish diplomatic relations, during which Poland has proven to be an exceptionally strong partner to the United States in advancing freedom around the world, S. Res. 20, celebrating the 60th anniversary of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, S. Res. 56, urging the Government of Moldova to ensure a fair and democratic election process for the parliamentary elections on April 5, 2009, and the nominations of Esther Brimmer, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary for International Organization Affairs, Karl Winfrid Eikenberry, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, Philip H. Gordon, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary for European and Eurasian Affairs, Rose Eilene Gottemoeller, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary for Verification and Compliance, Christopher R. Hill, of Rhode Island, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Career Minister, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Iraq, Richard Rahul Verma, of Maryland, to be Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, and Melanne Verveer, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador at Large for Women's Global Issues, all of the Department of State, 2:15 p.m., S-116, Capitol.

March 31, Subcommittee on Near Eastern and South and Central Asian Affairs, to hold hearings to examine the return and resettlement of displaced Iraqis, 2:45 p.m., SD-419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: March 31, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Kathleen Sebelius, of Kansas, to be Secretary of Health and Human Services, 10 a.m., SD-430.

April 1, Full Committee, business meeting to consider pending calendar business, 10 a.m., SD-430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: March 31, Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia, to hold hearings to examine the Office of the Chief Financial Officer, focusing on the progress it has made since the financial crisis of the 1990s, the financial management challenges in the years ahead, and the steps that are being taken to address those challenges, 10 a.m., SD-342.

April 2, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine recovery and reinvestment spending, 10 a.m., SD-342.

Committee on Indian Affairs: April 2, to hold hearings to examine S. 313, to resolve water rights claims of the White Mountain Apache Tribe in the State of Arizona, S. 443, to transfer certain land to the United States to be held in trust for the Hoh Indian Tribe, to place land into trust for the Hoh Indian Tribe, S. 633, to establish a program for tribal colleges and universities within the Department of Health and Human Services and to amend the Native American Programs Act of 1974 to authorize the provision of grants and cooperative agreements to tribal colleges and universities, and H.R. 326, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to take lands in Yuma County, Arizona, into trust as part of the reservation of the Cocopah Tribe of Arizona, 2:15 p.m., SD-628.

Committee on the Judiciary: March 31, business meeting to consider pending calendar business, 10 a.m., SD-226.

April 1, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of David F. Hamilton, of Indiana, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Seventh Circuit, and Ronald H. Weich, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, 2:30 p.m., SD-226.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: April 1, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Karen Gordon Mills, of Maine, to be Administrator of the Small Business Administration, 9:30 a.m., SR-428A.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: April 1, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of W. Scott Gould, of the District of Columbia, to be Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs, 10 a.m., SR-418.

Select Committee on Intelligence: March 31, to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

April 2, Full Committee, to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

House Committees

Committee on Agriculture, March 31, Subcommittee on Rural Development, Biotechnology, Specialty Crops, and Foreign Agriculture, hearing to review innovative approaches to rural development, 1 p.m., 1300 Longworth.

April 1, Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and Risk Management, hearing to review the state of the farm economy, 11 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

April 2, full Committee, to review Federal food safety systems, 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Appropriations, March 30, Subcommittee on Select Intelligence Oversight Panel, on Intelligence Community Research and Development, 10 a.m., H-140 Capitol.

March 31, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, on Agriculture, Rural Development and FDA, 10 a.m., 2362-A Rayburn.

March 31, Subcommittee on Defense, on Army: Future Combat System and Precision Weapons Programs, 10 a.m., and on Army Aviation, 1 p.m., H-140 Capitol.

March 31, Subcommittee on Financial Services, and General Government, on FTC, 10 a.m., 2358-A Rayburn.

March 31, Subcommittee on Homeland Security, on Securing the Nation's Rail and Transit Systems, Improving the Efficiency of the Aviation Security System, 10 a.m., 2362-B Rayburn.

March 31, Subcommittee in Interior, Environment and Related Agencies, on Federal Role in the Arts, 10:30 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

April 1, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, on Legal Services Corporation, 10 a.m., and on Justice Reinvestment, 1:30 p.m., H-309 Capitol.

April 1, Subcommittee on Defense, on Shipbuilding Programs, 10 a.m., H-140 Capitol.

April 1, Subcommittee on Homeland Security, on Cargo and Container Security: Keeping a Lid on Threats, 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

April 1, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, on USFS and DOI—Budgeting for Wildfire Suppression, 9:30 a.m., B-308 Rayburn.

April 1, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies, on Pathways to Health Reform: Implementing the National Strategy to Reduce Healthcare-Associated Infections, 10 a.m., 2358-C Rayburn.

April 1, Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, on The Future of High Speed Rail, Intercity Passenger Rail and Amtrak, 2 p.m., 2358-A Rayburn.

April 2, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies, on Outside Witnesses and Members of Congress, 10 a.m., H-309 Capitol.

April 2, Subcommittee on Defense, executive, on Missile Defense Agency Overview, 10 a.m., H-140 Capitol.

April 2, Subcommittee on Homeland Security, on Immigration Enforcement and Citizenship Verification, 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

April 2, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, on Minerals Management Service Oversight, 9:30 a.m., B-308 Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, April 1, Subcommittee on Defense Acquisition Reform Panel, hearing on Measuring Value and Efficiency: How to Assess the Performance of the Defense Acquisition System, 7:30 a.m., 2212 Rayburn.

April 1, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing on Coordinating Contract Support on the Battlefield: Defense, State and U.S. AID, 1 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

April 1, Subcommittee on Readiness, hearing on the National Security Personnel System—the Way Forward, 2 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

April 2, full Committee, hearing on New Strategy for Afghanistan and Pakistan and developments in U.S. Central Command and Special Operations Command, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

April 2, Subcommittee on Military Personnel, hearing on improving recovery and full accounting of POW/MIA personnel from all past conflicts, 2 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

April 2, Subcommittee on Terrorism, Unconventional Threats and Capabilities, hearing on Terrorism and the

New Age of Irregular Warfare: Challenges and Opportunities, 3:30 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and Labor, March 31, hearing on Green Jobs and their Role in our Economic Recovery, 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, March 31, Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade and Consumer Protection, hearing on The Protecting Consumer Access to Generic Drugs Act of 2009, 11 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

March 31, Subcommittee on Health, hearing on Making Health Care Work for American Families: Protecting the Public Health, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

April 2, Subcommittee on Communications, Technology, and the Internet, hearing on Oversight of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act: Broadband, 9:30 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

April 2, Subcommittee on Health, hearing on Making Health Care Work for American Families: Saving Money, Saving Lives, 10 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, April 2, Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit, hearing on H.R. 1214, Payday Loan Reform Act of 2009, 2:30 p.m., 2128 Rayburn

Committee on Foreign Affairs, April 2, Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific, and the Global Environment, hearing on the South Pacific Tuna Treaty: Next Steps for Renewal, 10 a.m., 2200 Rayburn.

April 2, Subcommittee on Middle East and South Asia, hearing on U.S. Strategy for Afghanistan: Achieving Peace and Stability in the Graveyard of Empires, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

April 2, Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation and Trade, hearing on Export Controls and Satellite Technology, on Export Controls on Satellite Technology, 1 p.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, March 31, Subcommittee on Emergency Communications, Preparedness, and Response, hearing entitled "Examining Preparedness and Coordination Efforts of First Responders Along the Southwest Border," 10 a.m., followed by hearing on entitled "Do the Payment Card Industry Data Standards Reduce Cybercrime?" 2 p.m., 311 Cannon.

April 1, Subcommittee on Intelligence, Information Sharing and Terrorism Risk Assessment, hearing entitled "The Future of Fusion Centers: Potential Promise and Dangers," 10 a.m., 311 Cannon.

April 2, full Committee, hearing entitled "Homeland Security Policymaking: HSC at a Crossroads and Presidential Study Directive 1," 10 a.m., 311 Cannon.

Committee on House Administration, April 1, hearing on 2008 Audit Review and Agency Spending by the Election Assistance Commission, 10 a.m., 1310 Longworth.

April 1, full Committee, hearing on Management of Asbestos and Hazardous Materials at the Smithsonian Institution, 1 p.m., 1310 Longworth.

Committee on the Judiciary, March 31, Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law, hearing on VoIP: Who Has Jurisdiction to Tax It? 2 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

March 31, Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, Refugees, Border Security and International Law, and the Subcommittee on Constitution, Civil Rights and Civil

Liberties, joint hearing on H.R. 847, James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act of 2009, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

April 2, full Committee, hearing on Proposals to Fight Fraud and Protect Taxpayers, including the following measures: Fight Fraud Act of 2009; H.R. 1292, To amend title I, of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to establish a National White Collar Crime Center grants program for purposes of improving the identification, investigation, and prosecution of certain criminal conspiracies and activities and terrorist conspiracies and activities; H.R. 1667, War Profiteering Prevention Act of 2009; False Claims Corrections Act; Financial Crimes Resources Act of 2009; Money Laundering Correction Act of 2009; and H.R. 78, Stop Mortgage Fraud Act, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

April 2, Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law, hearing on Consumer Debt: Are Credit Cards Bankrupting Americans? 2 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

April 2, Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, Refugees, Border Security and International Law, and the Subcommittee on Constitution, Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, joint hearing on the Public Safety and Civil Rights Implications of State and Local Enforcement of Federal Immigration Laws, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, March 31, oversight hearing on "The California Drought: Actions by Federal and State agencies to address impacts on lands, fisheries, and water users," 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

April 1, oversight hearing on Supreme Court decision *Carciari v. Salazar* Ramifications to Indian Tribes, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

April 2, Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands, hearing on H.R. 1612, Public Lands Services Corps Act of 2009, 2 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, March 31, Subcommittee on National Security and Foreign Affairs, hearing on Afghanistan and Pakistan: Understanding and Engaging Regional Stakeholders, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

April 2, full Committee, hearing on the Collapse and Federal Rescue of AIG and What it Means for the U.S. Economy, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Rules, March 30, to consider H. Res. 279, Providing for the expenses of certain committees of the House of Representatives in the One Hundred Eleventh Congress, 4 p.m., H-313 Capitol.

Committee on Science and Technology, March 31, Subcommittee on Research and Science Education, to mark up the following bills: H.R. 1736, International Science and Technology Cooperation Act of 2009, H.R. 1709, STEM Education Coordinaton Act of 2009, 2 p.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Technolgy and Innovation, hearing on the Role of Research in Addressing Climate in Transportation Infrastructure, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

April 1, full Committee, hearing on Networking and Information Technology Research and Development Act of 2009, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, April 2, Subcommittee on Rural Development, Entrepreneurship and Trade, hearing

on legislative initiatives to Modernize SBA's Entrepreneurial Development Programs, 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, March 31, Subcommittee on Water Resources, and Environment, hearing on the Tennessee Valley Authority's Kingston Ash Slide: Potential Water Quality Impacts of Coal Combustion Waste Storage, 2 p.m., 2167 Rayburn.

April 1, Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, hearing on Civil Rights Services and Diversity Initiatives in the Coast Guard, 2 p.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, April 2, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, hearing on Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Programs, 1 p.m., 334 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, March 31, Subcommittee on Select Revenue Measures, hearing on Banking Secrecy Practices and Wealthy American Taxpayers, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

April 1, full Committee, hearing on Health Reform in the 21st Century: Reforming the Health Care Delivery System, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

April 2, Subcommittee on Select Revenue Measures, hearing on the Financial Crisis and Retirement Security: the 401(k) Way, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, April 1, full Committee, executive, briefing on Armenia, 5 p.m., 304 HVC.

April 1, full Committee, executive, briefing on North Korea update, 1 p.m., 304 HVC.

April 1, Subcommittee on Intelligence Community Management, hearing on management issues in the Intelligence Community, 10 a.m., 2203 Rayburn.

April 2, full Committee, executive, briefing on Signals Intelligence, 2 p.m., 304 HVC.

April 2, Subcommittee on Terrorism, Human Intelligence, Analysis, and Counterintelligence, executive, briefing on Global Deployment, 10 a.m., 304 HVC.

Joint Meetings

Joint Hearing: April 1, Senate Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities, with the Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, to receive a joint closed briefing to examine nuclear terrorism, 3:30 p.m., SVC-217.

April 1, Full Committee, with the Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities, to receive a joint closed briefing to examine nuclear terrorism, 3:30 p.m., SVC-217.

Joint Economic Committee: April 3, to hold hearings to examine the employment situation for March 2009, 9:30 a.m., SD-106.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

11 a.m., Monday, March 30

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

12:30 p.m., Monday, March 30

Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: Senate will begin consideration of the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for fiscal year 2010.

House Chamber

Program for Monday: To be announced.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

Bachmann, Michele, Minn., E790
 Berman, Howard L., Calif., E797
 Bishop, Timothy H., N.Y., E788
 Bono Mack, Mary, Calif., E799
 Calvert, Ken, Calif., E793
 Carson, André, Ind., E792
 Castor, Kathy, Fla., E789
 Childers, Travis W., Miss., E800
 Cleaver, Emanuel, Mo., E792
 Diaz-Balart, Mario, Fla., E791, E798
 Eshoo, Anna G., Calif., E785

Graves, Sam, Mo., E801
 Grijalva, Raúl M., Ariz., E787, E799
 Guthrie, Brett, Ky., E800
 Harman, Jane, Calif., E791
 Hastings, Alcee L., Fla., E786, E790
 Hinchey, Maurice D., N.Y., E800
 McCarthy, Kevin, Calif., E793
 Maffei, Daniel B., N.Y., E795
 Maloney, Carolyn B., N.Y., E785, E793, E799
 Oberstar, James L., Minn., E783, E783, E784, E784
 Olver, John W., Mass., E794
 Pallone, Frank, Jr., N.J., E789, E794
 Paul, Ron, Tex., E790

Rangel, Charles B., N.Y., E787
 Rohrabacher, Dana, Calif., E794
 Roybal-Allard, Lucille, Calif., E801
 Salazar, John T., Colo., E792
 Sanchez, Loretta, Calif., E786
 Sensenbrenner, F. James, Jr., Wis., E797
 Smith, Adam, Wash., E795
 Smith, Adrian, Nebr., E790
 Towns, Edolphus, N.Y., E783, E785, E786, E787, E788,
 E790, E800
 Wilson, Joe, S.C., E786
 Wolf, Frank R., Va., E795
 Woolsey, Lynn C., Calif., E786



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